

DISCLOSURE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**
☐ **ANSWER**
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**
☐ **UNTIMELY**

DATE: 10/30/2020

DOCKET #:

Ashley Wimberley, Director
Disclosure Division

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Willis Eugene Garner
Address: 933 N. Goodwill St., Goldonna, LA 71031-3507
Office/Position: Natchitoches Parish School Board
Dates of Service: 2013-2020
Number of Disclosures and/or Amendments Filed with Agency: 14

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: School Board Disclosure for School Year 2019
Report ID: SBD19000325
Original Due Date: 9/9/2019
NOD Received: 9/14/2019 -Signed by: Unable to Determine
PFD/Answer Due Date based on NOD: 9/9/2019
PFD/Answer Filed: 9/14/2019

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$250
Days late from receipt of NOD: 5
Total days late from initial due date: 5
Late Fee Order Received: 10/7/2020
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 10/27/2020
Waiver Request Received: 10/17/2020

COMMENTS:

Willis E. Garner is asking for waiver for his 2019 School Board Disclosure. Mr. Garner stated that during the time the NOD was received, he was moving his elderly parents into a nursing facility in Winfield, Louisiana. He and his brother were caring for their parents at their home, on a rotating schedule. The doctor caring for Garner's parents ordered that they needed 24-hour care, so he had to make the decision and place his parents in the Autumn Leaves Nursing Home. Garner stated the "turmoil and stress" of advising his parents they would have to move from their long-term home, along with dealing with their Medicare, Social Security, consumed a lot of his time and was overwhelming. Along with dealing with his personal issues, he was constantly going back-and-forth to the school in Natchitoches (over 30 miles away, 1 direction from his home) since he was assisting with the new school year startup. He's also the Water Superintendent for the Goldonna Water System and Che Che Bay District Water System. His water district duties require him take daily samples and make adjustments to the water as needed to ensure the water provided is clean and safe for customers. With his various school board duties, water system duties, and his parents, Garner's plate was full. The unexpected responsibilities of caring for two elderly parents, mixed his regular responsibilities caused him mental stress, additional financial obligations, personal health and family issues during 2019. He stated he's always tries to file timely and follow the rules. However, with all the issues he had going on, filing the SBD just slipped his mind. He asks the Ethics Board to please have compassion and take into consideration his personal problems during that time and waive his late fee.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Disclosure Statements:

- Other Outstanding Statements: No
- Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No
- Reassessed Late Fees: No

Campaign Finance:

- Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No

Willis Eugene Garner

933 N Goodwill St
Goldonna, Louisiana 71031

October 16, 2020

Louisiana Board of Ethics
PO Box 4368
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Board of Ethics:

I'm writing to the Board of Ethics to request a waiver of my late fee. During that period of time I was dealing with getting my elderly parents into a nursing home facility in Winnfield, Louisiana.

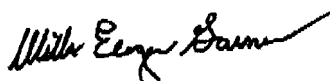
Without getting into too much personal detail, we had been caring for my parents at home, rotating between me and a brother. The doctor that was caring for them ordered that both of them needed 24-hour care, so we made the decision to get them into the Autumn Leaves nursing home in Winnfield. As you can imagine the turmoil and stress of advising them that they would now have to move from their longtime home, then dealing with Medicare and Social Security as well as the nursing home, it was overwhelming and consumed a lot of time and effort. Being on the school board and dealing with all the issues involved with starting up a new school year had me constantly running the roads back and forth to the school board office in Natchitoches which is over 30 miles, one-way, from my home. I'm also the water superintendent for the Goldonna Water System as well as the Chee-Chee Bay District Water System. My water system duties require that I take samples daily and make adjustments as needed to ensure that we provide fresh, clean, and safe water to the customers of these two systems.

As you can see, with the various school board duties and my two water system duties, my plate is quite full. But, when the unexpected problems and responsibilities of caring for two elderly parents were thrown in on top of all my regular responsibilities, it pretty much overloaded me causing mental stress, additional financial obligations, and other personal health and family issues during that period in 2019.

I realize that I was 5 days late filing my report for 2019, but I've always tried to file all of my disclosure reports in a timely manner and to follow the rules to the very best of my ability. This time however, with all the issues I had going on in my personal life, it just slipped by me. That's why I'm requesting a **Waiver of the Late Fees** from the Board of Ethics.

I'm hoping that the Board of Ethics will have compassion and see it in your hearts to waive the fees considering the personal problems going on in my life during that time. Thanking you in advance for your kindest consideration, I am...

Sincerely yours,



Willis Eugene Garner

ETHICS BOARD REC'D
OCT 19 '20 08:19



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.la.gov

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70180360000054136943

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

September 12, 2019

Willis Eugene Garner
933 N. Goodwill St.
Goldonna, LA 71031-3507

RE: NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY
Failure to File – School Board Disclosure Statement
Natchitoches Parish School Board, School Year 2019-2020

Dear Willis Eugene Garner:

La. R.S. 42:1119B(2)(a)(iii) requires members of school boards and members of boards of directors of charter schools to file a disclosure statement with this agency disclosing an immediate family member's employment with the school district or charter school. The aforementioned statute requires that the disclosure statement be filed within 30 days of the first day of school.

Our records indicate that you previously filed a school board disclosure statement wherein you reported that an immediate family member was employed by the school district or charter school. As of this date, a school board disclosure statement for the above referenced school year has not been received. The disclosure statement was due on or before September 9, 2019.

La. R.S. 42:1119B(2)(a)(iii) authorizes the assessment of a \$50 per day late fee for each day the disclosure statement is late. As such, late fees of \$50 per day are being accrued against you.

If the family member is no longer employed by the school district or charter school, you are to submit a statement to the Board within 15 days of receipt of this Notice indicating the family member is no longer employed with the school district or charter school.

If you have any questions, or need clarification on the information contained, you may contact me at 1-800-842-6630 or 225-219-5600.

Sincerely,

Ashley Wimberley, Director
Disclosure Division

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Willis Eugene Garner
933 N. Goodwill St.
Goidonna, LA 71031-3507



6543



9590 9402 2805 7069 2988 28

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7018 0360 0000 5413 6943

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

☒ Agent

☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

Sh...

C. Date of Delivery

9/21

Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes

If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

☒ Adult Signature

☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery

☐ Certified Mail®

☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery

☐ Collect on Delivery

☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery

☐ Insured Mail

☐ Priority Mail Express®

☐ Registered Mail™

☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery

☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise

☒ Signature Confirmation™

☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

ted Delivery

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt